

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

5 (a) a polynucleotide fragment of SEQ ID NO:1 or a polynucleotide fragment of the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. ;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. ;

10 (c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide domain of SEQ ID NO:2 or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. ;

(d) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:2 or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. ;

(e) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. having biological activity;

15 (f) a polynucleotide which is a variant of SEQ ID NO:1;

(g) a polynucleotide which is an allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:1;

(h) a polynucleotide which encodes a species homologue of the SEQ ID NO:2;

20 (i) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(h), wherein said polynucleotide does not hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of only A residues or of only T residues.

2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding the protein.

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3. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding the sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:2 or the coding sequence included in ATCC Deposit No. ;

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4. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises the entire nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No: .

5. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises sequential nucleotide deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

6. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises sequential nucleotide deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

7. A recombinant vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

8. A method of making a recombinant host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

9. A recombinant host cell produced by the method of claim 8.

10. The recombinant host cell of claim 9 comprising vector sequences.

11. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No: .

(b) a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No: . having biological activity;

(c) a polypeptide domain of SEQ ID NO:2 or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No: . ;

(d) a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:2 or the encoded sequence included

in ATCC Deposit No: ;

- (e) a mature form of a secreted protein;
- (f) a full length secreted protein;
- (g) a variant of SEQ ID NO:2;
- 5 (h) an allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:2; or
- (i) a species homologue of the SEQ ID NO:2.

10 12. The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, wherein the full length protein comprises sequential amino acid deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

13. An isolated antibody that binds specifically to the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.

15 14. A recombinant host cell that expresses the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.

15. A method of making an isolated polypeptide comprising:

- 20 (a) culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 14 under conditions such that said polypeptide is expressed; and
- (b) recovering said polypeptide.

16. The polypeptide produced by claim 15.

25 17. A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical condition which comprises administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 11 or of the polynucleotide of claim 1.

30 18. A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject related to expression or activity of a protein comprising:

(a) determining the presence or absence of a mutation in the polynucleotide of claim 1;

(b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition based on the presence or absence of said mutation.

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19. A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject related to expression or activity of a protein comprising:

10 (a) determining the presence or amount of expression of the polypeptide of claim 11 in a biological sample;

(b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition based on the presence or amount of expression of the polypeptide.

15 20. A method for identifying binding partner to the polypeptide of claim 11 comprising:

(a) contacting the polypeptide of claim 11 with a binding partner; and

(b) determining whether the binding partner effects an activity of the polypeptide.

20 21. The gene corresponding to the cDNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

22. A method of identifying an activity in a biological assay, wherein the method comprises:

25 (a) expressing SEQ ID NO:1 in a cell;

(b) isolating the supernatant;

(c) detecting an activity in a biological assay; and

(d) identifying the protein in the supernatant having the activity.

30 23. The product produced by the method of claim 22.